



Manchester Public Schools



**What's
Today's
News?**

Office of Performance, Evaluation and Talent Development News Update...

On January 29th Superintendent, Matt Geary, taped a Message From The Superintendent segment on School Climate. He took this opportunity to meet with the district's first-year teachers to discuss one of his core values: believing in all kids. Thirty two first-year teachers in the district were the audience as Mr. Geary discussed district-wide data on Gifted and Talented, Discipline, High School Graduation Rates, and what it all means for families as they trust us to provide a rich school experience for their children PK – 12 and beyond. What story does this data tell? What does it all mean to teachers who are brand new to the profession? What role should this data play as teachers develop their skills? As new members of our school community, teachers had the opportunity to share freely with Mr. Geary their experiences with climate in their respective schools, and what it means to be responsible for ensuring all kids feel embraced in their schools and classrooms. Teachers currently working with students from PK to Grade 12 took the opportunity to share perspectives from different grade levels. One music teacher, who provides music instruction in four different schools, had a unique perspective about differences and similarities within our district. It lead to a spirited discussion with Mr. Geary about district coherence, what teachers can do to increase that cohesion, and the goal of all students having the opportunity for excellence regardless of the school they're in. Mr. Geary shared some personal experiences (including pictures!) about growing up in Waterbury and trying to navigate a path to college when finances were tight. It was the collaboration of a relentless mom and teachers who believed in him that helped pave the way to Fairfield University.

The meeting ended with an ice cream social catered by A.C. Peterson's. Mr. Geary's Message From The Superintendent will be made available for public viewing as of February 3rd, 2015.



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